

MIDDLE EAST & SOUTH ASIA REVIEW

20 APRIL 1983

Lebanon

Aftermath of Embassy Bombing — Rescue teams continue to recover more victims of the blast at the U.S. Embassy in Beirut where at least 61 people may have died, AFP reported. Meanwhile, Prime Minister Shafiq al-Wazzan said that Lebanese authorities have "some indications" that may help to identify those responsible for the attack and warned that further attacks may be carried out, AFP added.

Although earlier the "Islamic Jihad Organization" had claimed responsibility for the bombing, several other groups have also been linked with the blast. Jerusalem radio's Arabic service, citing Beirut papers, reported that an organization to "avenge the Sabra and Shatila victims" and another group, known as the "Socialist Union Arabs Organization-Action National Cells," claimed credit for the explosion. Later, the radio's commentary implicated Syria as the party "supervising" terrorism and violence in Lebanon.

An unidentified Western diplomat from one of the countries contributing to the multinational peacekeeping force said the blast serves "numerous Israeli goals," KUNA reported.

Meanwhile, Iran continued to dissociate itself from the attack. Foreign Minister 'Ali Akbar Velayati denied any involvement by the Islamic Republic and labeled such allegations "a propaganda plot," according to an interview in the daily ETTELA'AT reported by IRNA. Earlier, Deputy Foreign Minister Ahmad 'Azizi said attempts to attribute the explosion to Iran are "a pretext to attack the Islamic Republic," Tehran radio noted.

Arab League Secretary General Chedli Klibi said the aim of the explosion in Beirut is to block efforts to find a just solution to the Middle East problem and to further entangle the region in the spiral of antagonism between the great powers, thus enabling Israel to continue occupying Lebanon and implementing its plans against the West Bank and Gaza, TAP reported. The Jordanian daily AR-RA'Y saw "Israel's hands" behind the event. According to the paper, the perpetrators wanted to demonstrate that both the Lebanese and the multinational force are unable to safeguard stability in Lebanon and that the role played by the United States in the area can become "very costly," Amman radio reported.

Negotiations — Progress was made on certain points at the 19 April Netanya talks, but "lack of time" prevented discussion of the "basic points," Beirut radio reported. Lebanon expects an "intensive U.S. move to give new momentum" to the negotiations, the radio noted. During the plenary session, Israeli delegation leader David Kimche blamed the U.S. Embassy bombing on "extremist elements" and their backers who are "trying to regain the centers which they lost in Beirut," Voice of Lebanon radio reported.

Syria

Sources in Moscow disclosed that the chief of Syrian military intelligence is heading a high-level military delegation on a secret visit to the Soviet Union for talks on the increasing Syrian-Israeli tension in Lebanon, KUNA reported. Meanwhile, a Damascus radio commentary emphasized that Syria seeks peace and is prepared to find solutions to disputes in the area. However, the peace process must operate through the United Nations and on the basis of UN principles and international law, the radio said. The peace being sought by the United States, which aims to reconcile "Israeli expansionism" and U.S. designs "to control the area and its oil," is completely unacceptable to the Arabs and can never be established, the radio asserted.

PLO Affairs

PLO Executive Committee Chairman Yasir 'Arafat arrived in Budapest and held talks with Hungarian leaders, Budapest radio reported. Earlier, 'Arafat told a press conference in Prague that his visit to Czechoslovakia was successful and that his talks there were "constructive and positive," according to CTK.

Oil Slick

Iraqi President Saddam Husayn received a Saudi envoy who delivered a message from King Fahd on the Gulf oil slick, Baghdad radio reported. Stressing Iraq's concern over the problem, Saddam reaffirmed that Iraq is ready to cooperate with the Arab Gulf countries in dealing with the situation on a sound basis that would serve the interests of all parties concerned while preventing Iran from "exploiting the situation," the radio said. Meanwhile, technical experts of the Regional Organization for the Protection of the Marine Environment postponed their planned meeting in Bahrain until 23 April, QNA reported.

Egypt

During a brief visit to Khartoum for talks with Sudanese President Ja'far Numayri, President Husni Mubarak told a press conference that, although there is no new Egyptian-U.S. initiative on the Palestinian issue, Egypt is continuing its unceasing efforts to achieve a comprehensive solution, MENA reported. He urged the Palestinians to "let wisdom and logic prevail before it is too late" and agree with King Husayn on a Jordanian-Palestinian relationship in order to frustrate any excuse to "liquidate" the Palestinian issue. The Egyptian leader urged states supplying offensive weapons to Iran and Iraq to reconsider this policy because it "only increases the bloodshed and waste" caused by the war. President Numayri, also speaking at the press conference, announced that Mubarak had performed a great duty for the Egyptian and Sudanese people by coming to Khartoum "to cast his vote for the president of Sudan on behalf of the Egyptian people."

FBIS**DAILY REPORT
CONTENTS****South Asia**

Vol VIII No 077

20 April 1983

MIDDLE EAST & SOUTH ASIA REVIEW i**BANGLADESH**

Reportage on Malaysian Prime Minister's Visit	D 1
Ershad Hosts Banquet	D 1
Mahathir Deplores SRV Attacks	D 1
Agreement Signed With Egypt on Trade Expansion	D 2
National United Front Holds Meeting 9 April [THE BANGLADESH OBSERVER 10 Apr].....	D 2
BRIEFS: IDA LOAN	D 2
AMBASSADOR TO ARGENTINA	

INDIA

Gandhi Discusses 'Delicate' Indian Ocean Situation	E 1
Venkataraman Views Pakistani Military Capability	E 1
Home Minister Comments on Punjab Situation	E 1
Agartila Police Shoot at Congress-I Workers	E 1
Four Killed in Clashes, Arson in Assam	E 1
Orbital Parameter of Rohini Satellite Determined	E 1

PAKISTAN

Press Note Issued on Shi'ite-Police Clash [DAWN 16 Apr].....	F 1
Interior Minister Comments on Regional Affairs [Jidda 'UKAZ 12 Apr]	F
Pakistan, Egypt To Conduct Agricultural Exchange [DAWN 14 Apr].....	F 2

IRAN

U.S. Takes 'Political Advantage' of Embassy Explosion	I 1
Velayati Denies Iran Involved in Beirut Explosion	I 1
Deputy Foreign Minister Grants Interview 19 Apr	I 1
Armed Forces Joint Staff Communique No 1,290	I 2
Khamene'i Receives New PRC Ambassador 12 April	I 2
'Azizi: Iran Treated Unfairly at Brazil Meeting	I 2
Ardabili Meets Mobilization Foundation Personnel	I 3
Khamene'i Friday Prayers Sermon 15 April	I 3
Interior Ministry Statement on Afghan Identity Cards	I 4
Reportage on Recent Afghan Mujahidin Activities	I 4
City Captured	I 4
Herat Bombed	I 4
NVOI Criticizes Nonparticipation in Afghan Talks	I 4

Reportage on Malaysian Prime Minister's Visit*BK181157 Dhaka BSS in English 1130 GMT 18 Apr 83*

[Text] Dhaka, April 18, BSS — Malaysian Prime Minister Datuk Sri Dr Mahathir bin Mohammad and his consort arrived here this noon to a warm ceremonial welcome on a 4-day official visit to Bangladesh.

Dr. Mahathir and his wife Datin Sri Dr Siti Hasmah were greeted by the chief martial law administrator, Lt Gen H.M. Ershad and Begum Raushan Ershad at the Zia International Airport which was tastefully decorated on the occasion.

A 19-gun salute boomed in the air as the special Royal Air Force aircraft carrying the Malaysian prime minister and his 12-member entourage touched down at the airport.

The Malaysian nationals residing in Dhaka were among the enthusiastic crowd which turned up at the airport to greet the Malaysian leader.

During his stay in Bangladesh, Dr Mahathir will hold discussions with President Assanuddin Chowdhury and Chief Martial Law Administrator Lt Gen H.M. Ershad on wideranging issues including bilateral relations.

The Malaysian prime minister will visit some industrial installations in Chittagong, a tea garden at Srimongal in Sylhet District and Ghorasal fertilizer factory in Dhaka District.

Ershad Hosts Banquet*BK190456 Dhaka Domestic Service in English 0145 GMT 19 Apr 83*

[Text] The chief martial law administrator [CMLA], Lieutenant General H.M. Ershad, hosted a banquet in honor of the visiting Malaysian prime minister, Dr Mahathir bin Mohammad, and his wife, Dr Siti Hasmah, at Banga Bhavan last night.

Speaking on the occasion, Gen Ershad expressed his confidence that the existing bonds of friendship and the areas of cooperation between Bangladesh and Malaysia will contribute [words indistinct] to the mutual benefit of the two people. He expressed Bangladesh's desire to continue to work together with Malaysia to strengthen the unity and cohesion of the Nonaligned Movement as well as the Organization of Islamic Conference [OIC].

Gen Ershad said that Bangladesh enjoys (?deep) and friendly relations with all her neighbors and has been making (?untiring) efforts to create an atmosphere of good will, trust, and mutual understanding in her own neighborhood. The proposed South Asian regional cooperation has produced most gratifying results in this direction, he said.

Gen Ershad said that Bangladesh firmly opposes the presence of foreign troops in Kampuchea and Afghanistan. On the situation in West Asia, he said the Israeli aggression and occupation of Lebanon have created an alarming magnitude [as heard] and we welcome the Arab peace plan. The CMLA commended Malaysia's initiative in hosting the regional conference of Asia on the

question of Palestine in Kuala Lumpur next month. He expressed confidence that Bangladesh and Malaysia will be in close consultations and make all possible endeavors to ensure the success of the 14th Islamic foreign ministers conference to be held in Dhaka later this year.

In reply, the Malaysian prime minister said his government noted with admiration the bold initiative taken by Bangladesh to promote a regional framework for cooperation in South Asia. He wished the move every success.

The Malaysian premier welcomed the 8-point declaration on the West Asia peace settlement adopted at the Arab summit in Fes last September. He expressed his country's pledge in support of the initiative of the OIC for an early solution of the Iran-Iraq conflict, which, he said, not only endangered peace and stability, but also undermined the solidarity of the Islamic countries.

Speaking about the bilateral ties between Malaysia and Bangladesh, Dr Mahathir said these were founded on the age-old cultural contacts, common experience, and geographical proximity. These ties have been further strengthened by our shared commitment to the ideals and aspirations of the United Nations, the OIC, the Nonaligned Movement, and the Commonwealth in all of which the two countries are members.

Mahathir Deplores SRV Attacks*BK190725 Dhaka BSS in English 0640 GMT 19 Apr 83*

[Text] Dhaka, April 19 BSS — The visiting Malaysian prime minister, Datuk Sri Dr. Mahathir bin Mohammad, has deplored what he said on-going Vietnamese attacks against the forces of Democratic Republic of Kampuchea [as received] and helpless Khmer civilian population.

Speaking at a banquet given in his honour last night by the chief martial law administrator, Lt. Gen. H.M. Ershad, Dr. Mahathir noted that Vietnamese military action along the Thai-Kampuchean border threatened a spill of fighting into neighbouring Thailand. He expressed fear that this would raise a spectre of war in the region and invite big power involvement.

Dr. Mahathir, who arrived here yesterday on a four-day official visit, called upon the international community to demand the cessation of hostility by Vietnam immediately along the border and withdrawal of its forces from Kampuchea.

The Malaysian prime minister said that Afghanistan too was the victim of foreign 'intervention and occupation.' He extended his full support to the resolutions of OIC [Organization of Islamic Conference], Non-aligned Movement and United Nations for the restoration of independence and sovereignty of Afghanistan.

Calling for an early solution to the Iran-Iraq conflict, Dr. Mahathir said, 'It only endangered peace and stability but also undermined the solidarity of Islamic countries.'

Criticising the repeated and blatant acts of Israeli aggression, he called upon the U.S. Government to apply necessary pressure on Israel to effect immediate Israeli pull-out from Lebanon.

Dr. Mahathir in his speech admired the bold initiative taken by Bangladesh to promote a regional framework for cooperation in South Asia.

The Malaysian prime minister's programme here yesterday included discussions with the chief martial law administrator, Lt.-Gen. H.M. Ershad, and Foreign Minister A.R. Shamsud Doha and visit to the national monument for the martyrs of liberation war at Savar, 18 miles from here.

Agreement Signed With Egypt on Trade Expansion

BK180721 Dhaka BSS in English 0634 GMT 18 Apr 83

[Text] Dhaka, April 18 BSS — Bangladesh and Egypt signed an agreement here yesterday for expanding trade relations between the two countries.

Under the agreement, Bangladesh will export raw jute, jute goods, tea, tobacco, spices, newsprint, writing and printing paper, steel and metal products, drugs and pharmaceuticals to Egypt and import from the latter raw cotton, cotton yarn, rock phosphate, aluminium ingots and sheets, dyes and chemicals and cumin seeds.

Although Bangladesh-Egypt set up a joint commission in 1974 the volume of trade between the two countries has remained insignificant during the last several years. Goods worth 15 million dollars were exchanged both ways in 1981-82. World recession and shipping difficulties were stated to have been the main factors for the low level of trade between the two countries.

National United Front Holds Meeting 9 April

BK141514 Dhaka THE BANGLADESH OBSERVER in English 10 Apr 83 p 1, 12

[Text] The 10-party alliance now renamed as National United Front demanded the restoration of representative government at a meeting at Dhaka District Sports Association Auditorium on Saturday. The meeting demanded freedom of press and restoration of congenial academic atmosphere in the educational institutions.

Khondokar Mushtaque Ahmed, a former president and chief of Democratic League, was made the chairman of the National United Front at the beginning of the meeting. Mr Abu Naser Khan Bhasani, chief of NAP [National Awami Party] (Naser), a component of the alliance, proposed the name of Khondokar Mushtaque Ahmed as the chairman and the proposal was seconded by Mrs Amena Begum of Jatiya Dal (Amena). The demands of the front, announced on March 26 last, were read out by Mrs Amena Begum at the meeting.

Presided over by Khondokar Mushtaque Ahmed, the meeting was addressed by Principal Raisuddin Ahmed; President Nikhil, Bangladesh Muslim League; Comrade Mehedi, convener, Ganotantrik Karmi Shibir; Major (Retd) Jainul Abedin, joint convener, Justice Party; Mr A.S.M. Solaiman Krishak, Stamik

Party; Abu Naser Khan Bhasani, president of NAP (Naser); Mr Ataul Huq Khan, general secretary Muslim League (T. Ali); Sk Ashrafuddin, acting president of Islamic Party, and Mrs Amena Begum of Jatiya Dal (Amena).

Khondokar Mushtaque Ahmed, addressing the meeting amidst slogans and clappings said, "We have won liberation for the country and we will protect its sovereignty and independence. We also want to establish democracy."

He invited all democratic forces for forging unity for the establishment of the people's rights and demands. He said that those who were responsible for the suspension of the Constitution were now talking of protecting it. He said that there are now 50 to 60 political parties in the country. He urged the government not to reduce the number. Khondokar Mushtaque Ahmed said let the people determine the number of political parties in the country.

Khondokar Mushtaque Ahmed said that those who were defeated in the elections fighting against late President Ziaur Rahman and Justice Sattar have been rejected by the people.

Acknowledging the support and cooperation given by India during the liberation war in 1971, he said it does not mean acceptance of hegemony of another country.

Khondokar Mushtaque Ahmed said that the alternative to an elected government is another elected government.

The present socio-economic and political problems can be solved only by an elected government he said.

Mr Abu Naser Khan Bhasani said that in the name of political dialogue, a confusion is being created. Major (Retd) Jainul said we want parliamentary democracy which was one of the main principles of our war of liberation.

Mr A.S.M. Solaiman called upon all the democratic forces for unity instead of dividing the nation into different camps of al badrs [civil defense forces], razakars [voluntary forces] and freedom fighters in view of the prevailing situation in the country.

BRIEFS

IDA LOAN — IDA is to give \$42.5 million as credit to Bangladesh for the development of telecommunication system in the country. Two agreements were signed to this effect in Washington on 4 April. [Dhaka Domestic Service in English 0145 GMT 7 Apr 83 BK]

AMBASSADOR TO ARGENTINA — Dhaka, April 16 (BSS) — The government has decided to concurrently accredit country's permanent representative to the United Nations, Lt.Gen. (Retd) Khwaja Wasiuddin, as Bangladesh ambassador to Argentina. The Foreign Ministry last night announced the government's decision giving additional responsibility to Ambassador Khwaja Wasiuddin. [Text] [Dhaka BSS in English 0740 GMT 16 Apr 83 BK]

Gandhi Discusses 'Delicate' Indian Ocean Situation

*BK191623 Delhi Domestic Service in English 1530 GMT
19 Apr 83*

[Text] The prime minister has told a meeting of Air Force commanders today that the situation in the Indian Ocean is delicate because of big power rivalry. India has to remain prepared to defend its integrity and safeguard its borders, including the island territories and oil installations. Mrs Gandhi was inaugurating the Air Force commanders biannual conference in New Delhi. She noted that the international security environment has deteriorated and tension has increased. In the recent past hostilities have broken out in many areas. Mrs Gandhi expressed concern at the rate of air accidents and asked the Air Force commanders to take all necessary steps to reduce them.

The 4-day conference will review operational, logistics, and welfare aspects of the Air Force. The defense minister, Mr R. Venkataraman, and the minister of state for defense, Mr K.P. Singh Deo, also attended the inaugural session.

Venkataraman Views Pakistani Military Capability

*BK200641 Delhi Domestic Service in English 0240 GMT
20 Apr 83*

[Text] The defense minister, Mr Venkataraman, has expressed concern over the military assistance received by Pakistan from other countries as India is the prime factor in Islamabad's military planning. Addressing the Army commanders conference in New Delhi yesterday, he said Pakistan is persisting in its attempt to acquire a military nuclear capability. In view of the present international situation, India is keen to ensure that its Armed Forces are properly and adequately equipped. He reiterated that the government will give highest priority to self-reliance in defense production. He also urged the Army commanders to reduce overall expenditure while ensuring adequate security.

Home Minister Comments on Punjab Situation

*BK191238 Delhi Domestic Service in English 0830 GMT
19 Apr 83*

[Text] The government has urged the Akali Dal leaders to hand over the proclaimed offender [Dalbir Singh Sandhu] who is reported to be living at Guru Nanak Niwas at the Golden Temple complex in Amritsar. Home Minister P.C. Sethi has expressed the hope that the Srimoni Gurdwara Prabandhak [Sikh temples management] committee and Akali Dal will realize their national responsibility and extend their cooperation in the matter. Sethi was replying to a calling-attention motion in the Lok Sabha on the reported functioning of the office of the so-called Khalistan council in the temple complex. It was moved by (Maniram Bagre), Lok Dal, and others.

In reply to a question, Sethi said the question of resuming talks with Akali leaders is now under consideration and the prime minister will not hesitate to participate in the talks if Akali leaders insist on them. He welcomed Akali Dal chief Sant Longowal's reported statement opposing the Khalistan movement. Sethi said the so-called national council of Khalistan and

Dal Khalsa were declared unlawful and banned in May last year for indulging in secessionist activities. One hundred and sixty-two activists had been arrested and 59 cases were registered till March this year. The government has been receiving information about Dal Khalsa elements taking shelter in the Amritsar temple complex.

About the entry of police in places of worship, Sethi said: Though it is not prohibited by law, the government has exercised restraint in deference to the religious sentiments. He assured the house that the government is keeping a close watch on Dal Khalsa activists and all steps are being taken to preserve the unity and integrity of the country.

The Punjab Government has ordered the release of all Akali Dal workers arrested in connection with the roadblock stir on the 4th of this month. Chief Minister Darbara Singh told All-India Radio Chandigarh correspondent that most of them have already been released. He said those arrested for substantive offenses will not be released. He said the state government is determined to maintain law and order and nobody will be allowed to disturb peace in the state.

Agartala Police Shoot at Congress-I Workers

*BK191603 Delhi Domestic Service in English 1530 GMT
19 Apr 83*

[Text] In Agartala five persons were injured when police opened fire on a group of Congress-I workers today. PTI, quoting official sources, said the police had to open fire in self-defense as the demonstrators turned violent and mounted an attack on them.

Four Killed in Clashes, Arson in Assam

*BK200303 Delhi Domestic Service in English 0240 GMT
20 Apr 83*

[Text] In Assam four persons were killed and several others injured in two separate incidents of clash and arson during the last 24 hours. According to agency reports, the incidents occurred in (Soliapara) village in Kamrup District and at (Naharibari) village in Darrang District. Security measures have been tightened and police pickets have been strengthened. Meanwhile, more illegal arms and ammunition were recovered from different areas by the police during its continued search operations.

Orbital Parameter of Rohini Satellite Determined

*BK200631 Delhi Domestic Service in English 0240 GMT
20 Apr 83*

[Text] The orbital parameter of the Rohini satellite has been determined. A Sriharikota High-Level Altitude Range (SHAR) spokesman said that the satellite is on an elliptical orbit with an apogee—that is, a maximum distance—of 850 km and a minimum distance—namely, perigee—of 375 km from the earth. All systems aboard the satellite are functioning normally and now being tracked successfully. The telemetry signals are being picked up by the ground stations at SHAR, Trivandrum, Ahmedabad, and Carnicobar.

Press Note Issued on Shi'ite-Police Clash*GF191750 Karachi DAWN in English 16 Apr 83 p 1*

[Text] The Karachi administration issued the following press note yesterday:

"A group of ulema notables decided on April 13 to convene a protest meeting on April 15 at Shah Najaf Imambargan [Shi'ite assembly hall]. However, after negotiations, these ulema notables, through a handbill, decided to call off the meeting. Despite this announcement and appeal, about 350 persons assembled today (on Friday) at Shah Najaf and indulged in acts of hooliganism including assault on the members of law enforcing agencies. As a result, three senior officers received serious injuries. The unruly crowd was dispersed and a large number of arrests were made on the spot.

"The dispersing crowd reassembled at Shah Khurasan, which grew in strength. This crowd, too, indulged in acts of violence and refused to disperse peacefully. At about 6 p.m. this crowd made an unsuccessful attempt to take out a procession. While dispersing, about 100 persons went inside the Shah Khurasan Imambargah and started pelting stones, as a result of which two constables received serious injuries.

"However, the situation was brought under control by use of minimum force and arrests of about 75 persons."

Situation in Liaquatabad remained absolutely normal yesterday, according to an announcement by the Karachi administration.

Eighty-five more persons of Liaquatabad, involved in the incident of April 12 and 13 last, were tried yesterday by the summary military court.

Of these, 41 were acquitted and 44 convicted. Those convicted were sentenced to one-year rigorous imprisonment and lashes varying from 10 to 15 each. The punishment of lashes was carried out in the central jail, Karachi, the announcement added.

Interior Minister Comments on Regional Affairs*PM151421 Jidda UKAZ in Arabic 12 Apr 83 p 6*

[Interview with Interior Minister Mahmud Haroon by Muhammad Mahjub — date, place not given]

[Excerpts] [Question] what issues did you discuss with Saudi officials during your visit to the Kingdom?

[Answer] My visit to the Kingdom covered various topics related to bilateral relations and matters of common interest. Pakistan considers the Kingdom its big sister. That is why we leave no issue out of our discussions with Saudi officials in the course of the policy of continuous consultations and contacts between the two countries.

[Question] May we know something about the backstage talks?

[Answer] During the visit to the Kingdom, we discussed issues pertaining to the two agreements concluded between me and

Interior Minister His Highness Prince Nayif ibn 'Abd al-'Aziz. One of these two agreements deals with the exchange of criminals between the two countries and the other deals with technical cooperation between the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia and the Islamic Republic of Pakistan. We also discussed the issue of training and agreement was reached in this respect.

[Question] Were security and military affairs discussed between Pakistani President Ziaul Haq and Egyptian President Husni Mubarak during the recent Nonaligned Summit Conference?

[Answer] No, no such issues were discussed.

[Question] Reports appear from time to time about disturbances in Pakistan. What is the truth?

[Answer] The truth is evident in the streets of Pakistan. I invite you to visit Pakistan and see for yourself. The foreign press reports that appear every now and then are unfounded, tendentious rumors. The recent disturbances in one of the Karachi suburbs were mere deviations which had nothing to do with internal disturbances.

[Question] May we then reassure the Pakistani community in the Kingdom that there are no disturbances in Pakistan?

[Answer] Of course, because if there were any disturbances, it would be unreasonable for the interior minister to be abroad. This is the best proof that the situation is stable.

[Question] A Sino-Pakistani rapprochement has recently been discerned. What are the dimensions of cooperation between the two countries, particularly in the military field?

[Answer] Cooperation with China is nothing new. It has been going on for a long time. We have obtained aircraft from China, but there is no military agreement between the two countries.

[Question] What is the state of Indian-Pakistani relations? Did President Ziaul Haq's attendance at the New Delhi Nonaligned Summit Conference positively affect bilateral relations between the two countries?

[Answer] Positive results or success do not happen overnight. There has been considerable improvement in Indian-Pakistani relations recently. We hope that these relations will be further solidified in the future.

[Question] India has repeatedly expressed fears of the possibility of Pakistan's producing a nuclear bomb. How ambitious is the Pakistani nuclear program?

[Answer] We are not producing nuclear or atomic bombs. We do not have the capabilities to produce such a bomb. I want to point out that any state interested in producing an atomic bomb must be prepared to bear the cost of such a step, which means having aircraft to carry it and other such matters. Pakistan's nuclear project is for peaceful purposes. As you know, Pakistan needs such a project, but only for peaceful purposes such as energy and so on.

[Question] Recent reports spoke of cooperation between Pakistan and a number of GCC states in the construction of one or more plants for the manufacture of heavy weapons in Pakistan. How true are these reports?

[Answer] We hear that the GCC states are thinking about the construction of such a plant for the manufacture of heavy weapons, but nothing has been done in this connection so far.

[Question] Do you believe that, in view of the circumstances and problems of the Islamic and Arab states in this respect, the construction of such a plant could begin in the coming months?

[Answer] I know nothing about this matter. As far as Pakistan is concerned, it has a factory which meets its requirements. It manufactures the weapons Pakistan needs. It manufactures light and medium weapons. Regarding heavy weapons, we need massive funds to manufacture such weapons.

[Question] Does Pakistan hope to get GCC aid for the construction of military plants for the manufacture of heavy weapons in Pakistan?

[Answer] The states of this region should seriously consider this matter, but Pakistan cannot ask them to build such a plant.

[Question] Talks on the Afghan crisis are currently in progress at the United Nations. Since Pakistan is a party to these indirect talks, what in your opinion are the chances of reaching a decisive conclusion that would solve the economic problem?

[Answer] The talks are continuing under UN supervision. Pakistan is one of the sides participating in the talks. We wish that these negotiations would lead to a settlement of the Afghan question, but Pakistan's position is clear regarding the possibility of achieving tangible results. Pakistan has four conditions for the settlement of this issue. They are:

1. That the refugees return to Afghanistan.
2. That Afghanistan should be clearly and fairly represented in the Nonaligned Movement.
3. That it [Afghanistan] should be a member of the Islamic Conference Organization.
4. That the Muslim Afghan people should determine their own fate in complete freedom.

[Question] What about the indirect talks held under UN supervision?

[Answer] They are talks between Pakistan and Iran. These talks are continuing.

[Question] Do you believe that the Soviet occupation of Afghanistan could extend to or affect Pakistan?

[Answer] As you know, we are against interference in the affairs of other states. It is clear that this occupation is directly affecting

Pakistan, which now has about 3 million Afghan refugees. At any rate, like other states we continuously prepare for self-defense against any foreign interference.

Pakistan, Egypt To Conduct Agricultural Exchange *GF171640 Karachi DAWN in English 14 Apr 83 p 1*

[Text] Islamabad, April 13 (APP) — Pakistan and Egypt have agreed to exchange experts and scientific knowledge in the fields of agriculture and livestock.

This was decided at a meeting between Federal Minister for Food, Agriculture and Co-operatives Vice-Admiral Mohammad Fazil Janjua and Egyptian Minister of State for Agriculture and Food Security Yusuf Wali here on Tuesday.

The federal minister for agriculture, while welcoming the Egyptian minister said that both the countries can benefit from each others experience on the basis of mutual cooperation.

The minister said Pakistan wanted to learn from the Egyptian experience in the field of crop rotation and cropping pattern. The Egyptian minister agreed to send two experts to Pakistan.

It was agreed that Egypt will give Pakistan 500 plants of high-yielding and longer lasting seedless grapes and an Egyptian expert will assist Pakistani scientists to transplant this variety to our climatic condition.

The Egyptian minister congratulated Pakistan for achieving self-sufficiency in foodgrain and said Egypt would like to import Pakistani varieties of wheat, rice, cotton, and kinko. He also appreciated the agricultural pricing system of Pakistan and said that Egypt could learn from Pakistan's experience in this field.

Vice Adm Janjua expressed willingness to send Pakistani experts to Egypt to learn the credit technology there. Two Pakistani experts are expected to visit Egypt for this purpose.

The two sides agreed to exchange seeds of field and horticultural crops, germ plasm for the development of livestock production in the two countries, knowledge regarding mechanization of agriculture, and scientific data and literature.

The Egyptian minister expressed keen interest in the multipurpose thresher and wheat reaper that has been produced in Pakistan.

Launching of a joint research program for the transplantation of embryo was also agreed upon at the meetings.

The Egyptian minister extended an invitation to a seminar on agricultural cooperation between South and South in Cairo in November.

Earlier, the visiting minister was apprised of the efforts to develop agriculture and livestock in the country. Experts gave a resume of agriculture policy and achievements.

U.S. Takes 'Political Advantage' of Embassy Explosion*LD191247 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1030 GMT 19 Apr 83*

[Text] U.S. imperialism and Zionism, to hide the self-evolving nature of Lebanese and Palestinian strugglers and their heartfelt demand for the expulsion of Zionist and American occupiers from their land, are trying to use their huge propaganda machine to take political advantage of the explosion at the gates of the U.S. Embassy in Beirut. With the cooperation of the regime occupying Jerusalem, Arab reactionaries, and imperialist media, they are paving the way for a new conspiracy against the Muslims of the region.

Politically informed sources in Tehran have told IRNA that the United States and its allies in the Middle East are seriously refusing to admit the revolutionary uprising of the Muslims in Lebanon and are trying to attribute any incident there, which can be exploited using the necessary propaganda political and psychological background, to the Islamic Revolution, ignoring the insistence of the struggling nation of Lebanon and the Arab Muslims on expelling the Zionist and American occupiers.

It is on the basis of this deceitful policy that even before the details of yesterday's incident, which resulted in the deaths of 39 people including 6-8 Americans, Reagan made use of the patriotic feelings of the American people and falsely declared that he wants peace, that the American peace initiative in Lebanon will be continued, and that this explosion will not affect what Reagan calls the firm determination of America to achieve peace in Lebanon.

At the same time, the occupiers of Palestine, this cancerous and malignant tumor imposed on the region, which because of the pressure exerted by America and Arab reactionaries some time ago received a guarantee to live in the region and, using their forceful measures against the unarmed Lebanese Muslims, succeeded in occupying some of their territory more audaciously than ever and, enjoying the support of the reactionaries in the region, are talking about dividing Lebanon into an area for Muslim residents and an area for Christians. In order to fool the American people more than ever, despite all the records and books kept in the embassy and despite the boasting about their scientific achievements, some 20 hours after the incident the names and nationalities of the 39 killed in the explosion are not announced so that their anonymous deaths can be mourned longer and the patriotic feelings of the media-dominated people in America can be led and excited in the direction desired by the leadership in Washington and by the gangs governing American policies, and to satisfy public opinion which has lost its patience, realizing the futile results of U.S. intervention in Vietnam, the Middle East, and South America.

What is completely omitted from hourly and numerous commentaries broadcast by Western news agencies and radio stations working for imperialist media, including the BBC, Voice of America, and Israeli radio, is the real emotions and firm determination of the Lebanese Muslims who have repeatedly stated that they will not accept the guardianship of America, Zionism, and Arab reactionaries in their country and over their destiny. Western media are obliged to pave the way for the future political

and military actions of their Zionist and imperialist bosses and then justify their crimes. They do not point out that these acts completely ignore the people who want to determine their own destiny.

At any rate, what is happening in Lebanon now is nothing but self-evolved resistance, a struggle by the Muslim and revolutionary nation which America and Zionism are trying to use as a political pretext to nip in the bud the progress of the Islamic movement in the region.

Velayati Denies Iran Involved in Beirut Explosion*GF191656 Tehran IRNA in English 1627 GMT 18 Apr 83*

[Text] Tehran, April 19 IRNA — In an interview with a daily Iranian paper, Foreign Minister 'Ali Akbar Velayati denied any involvement by the Islamic Republic in Monday's bomb attack against the U.S. Embassy in Beirut.

The Lebanese people know what their interests are and blaming the supporters of the Islamic Republic or friends of the Islamic Revolution for the explosion of the U.S. Embassy is a bluff to intimidate all those who sympathise with our Islamic Revolution, he said.

We deny (any involvement) and we think this allegation is another propaganda plot against us.

The foreign minister's comments were published in the afternoon daily ETTELA'AT Tuesday.

Deputy Foreign Minister Grants Interview 19 Apr*LD191407 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1030 GMT 19 Apr 83*

[Excerpts] Deputy Foreign Minister Ahmad 'Azizi granted an interview today to our correspondent during which he answered questions on the recent convention in Kuwait, held to prevent the pollution in the Persian Gulf caused by the oil slick resulting from Saddam's missile attack, on the explosion at the U.S. Embassy in Beirut, on the reflection of Iran's victories abroad, and on the so-called Islamic Conference in Baghdad. We draw your attention to the interview:

[Begin recording] [Question] Following Saddam's missile attack on the Persian Gulf oil field, the Kuwait convention recently held a session to decide ways of preventing the further advance of the oil slick in the Persian Gulf. Would you please tell us about the Islamic Republic's plans in this connection?

[Answer] In the name of God, the compassionate, the merciful. On this issue, the Iraqi Government had a predetermined stance. What I mean is that its delegation intended from the very start to frustrate the session so that it would not arrive at a suitable conclusion acceptable to all the littoral states.

[Question] We have received information about the U.S. Embassy explosion in Beirut indicating that the media and American officials are trying to attribute this explosion to Iran;

how do you interpret this issue?

[Answer] It is obvious that America has always used different pretexts and excuses to attack the Islamic Revolution of Iran and the friends of the Islamic Revolution, and this is naturally one of them. We see that the mass media subservient to imperialism and Zionism are coordinated and united in their cooperation with America. If we consider the crimes and savage attitude of America against the interests of the oppressed and Muslim nations, it is natural that such action would result from the anger of nations. America would not be able to escape from such reactions and would have to face them. [end recording]

The deputy foreign minister also commented on the Wal Fajr operations and the propaganda of imperialist-Zionist media which try to present Iraq as the victor, saying: The blow that we dealt the Zionist enemy in the course of these operations was extremely telling. Our forces' overcoming of the obstacles and the fortified hindrances created by the global oppressors manifest our forces' might and organization. We succeeded in dealing telling blows to the enemy by smashing him.

Referring to the holding of the Islamic conference in Baghdad, he said: The Zionist regime, being fundamentally and essentially contradictory to Islam, is trying to present itself as adhering to Islam by such a ruse. He stressed that, as pointed out by the prime minister, this conference must clearly answer for the martyrdom of Ayatollah Sadr and his sister. Of course, while these issues are ignored, no useful measures can be taken to help settle the question of peace or war.

Armed Forces Joint Staff Communique No 1,290

LD191741 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1630 GMT 19 Apr 83

[Communique No 1,290 of Joint Staff of Armed Forces of Islamic Republic of Iran]

[Text] In His exalted name. Exchanges of fire continued on the southern fronts and in the Wal Fajr operational sector during the past 24 hours and the combatants of Islam carried out the necessary efforts to consolidate their defensive positions. The warriors of Islam, while defending their positions, watched and controlled the enemy's moves and operations. By opening artillery and other heavy weapons fire at appropriate times, the combatants of Islam neutralized the activities of the Saddamists.

The forces of Islam in the Abadan-Khorramshahr operational sector returned enemy fire yesterday and destroyed five observation posts and slit trenches and foxholes of the aggressors.

Exchanges of fire continued yesterday in the western operational sector and our forces on every front continued to carry out their defensive missions. By opening fire and dispatching patrols, our forces delivered effective blows to the enemy and succeeded in destroying several lorries carrying Iraqi troops and several of the enemy's infantry trenches.

Our combatants on the Marivan front opened artillery fire on positions and units of the enemy across the border, neutralized

operations by the Iraqi forces and silenced their fire.

The Saddamist criminal mercenaries yesterday shelled Abadan intermittently with their heavy artillery, destroying two houses.

(Signed) Joint Staff of the Armed Forces of the Islamic Republic of Iran.

Khamene'i Receives New PRC Ambassador 12 April

LD122053 Tehran IRNA in English 1928 GMT 12 Apr 83

[Text] Tehran, April 12, IRNA — Fan Zuokai, the new ambassador of the People's Republic of China (PRC) to the Islamic Republic of Iran, submitted his credentials to President 'Ali Khamene'i here today.

The new Chinese ambassador said that both Iran and China were Third World countries which have independent political policies. He expressed hope that the relations between the two countries would be even further expanded.

Later President Khamene'i, while welcoming the new Chinese ambassador, pointed to the cultural and historical ties of the two countries and said, Iran and China share many similarities which will definitely influence the expansion and betterment of ties between the two countries.

'Azizi: Iran Treated Unfairly at Brazil Meeting

LD142229 Tehran IRNA in English 2011 GMT 14 Apr 83

[Text] Tehran, April 14, IRNA — Deputy Foreign Minister Ahmad 'Azizi returned here Wednesday night after the meeting of the Group of 77 conference in Buenos Aires and a mission to Brazil.

Speaking to IRNA today, 'Azizi said that the Iranian delegation was treated unfairly at the meeting and the head of the conference raised objections about his speech several times because of its political content, namely the issue of the Iraqi imposed war.

'Because of this attitude (toward his speech) I preferred to discontinue my speech and this resulted in the increase of requests for the text of my speech," he said.

The deputy foreign minister added that since Iraq was a candidate to host the next meeting of the conference, the Iraqi delegation tried to avoid the issue of the war as far as possible and claimed that the Islamic Republic had imposed a war upon Iraq and therefore forced it to decrease its aid to Third World nations. Nevertheless, he said that the Iranian delegation expressed its making a point that economic independence was meaningless without political independence.

'Azizi said that he met with the trade and foreign ministers of Nicaragua, India, Tanzania, Pakistan, Cuba, South Yemen, Algeria, Libya, Yugoslavia, and Sri Lanka during his stay in Buenos Aires.

Ardabili Meets Mobilization Foundation Personnel

GF200916 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 0430 GMT
20 Apr 83

[Text] Members of the oppressed mobilization foundation of the Islamic Revolution guards of Islamshahr met with State Attorney General Musavi Ardabili. He told them that through the measures and methods taken by the oppressed mobilization foundation Iran will possess 40 million warriors and fighters in the future. He also stated that in the deviated Pahlavi regime, our society was corrupt and had 1 million addicts. This tragedy was the only heritage that the shah left to the country.

The attorney general told his audience that they have picked a good path and undoubtedly they will continue on this path. To take part in the mobilization makes an individual pious and virtuous. You in the mobilization foundation are doing both physical and mental work.

Ardabili further said that the mobilization foundation is more godly. The imam has said that the mobilization foundation has performed valuable work on the battlefields and in the rear. You must be devoted as a man to God and move in the cause of God. Your life and death must be for God, he concluded.

Khamene'i Friday Prayers Sermon 15 April

LD151342 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1030 GMT
15 Apr 83

[Excerpts] Millions of our Muslim compatriots took part at the political-religious Friday prayers ceremonies all over the country today. Tehran University, the meeting place of the Friday prayers participants, today witnessed masses of Muslim and revolutionary people of Tehran taking part in the glorious Friday prayers. This eternal Mohammadan tradition was held under the imamate of Hujjat ol-Eslam val-Moslemin Seyyed 'Ali Khamene'i, Friday imam of Tehran.

Starting the first sermon, the Friday imam of Tehran paid tribute to the fifth imam, His Excellency Imam Mohammad Bager, may peace be upon him, on the anniversary of his birthday.

Concerning the remarkable victories of the combatants of Islam, in continuation of the Wal Fajr operations, the Friday imam of Tehran said:

[Begin recording] With divine succor, these operations were carried out very successfully, but they have not ended. The Wal Fajr operations are continuing. The fists of the combatants of Islam must smash the brains of our enemies.

For some time our enemies and their supporters in the region and all over the world were happy; today they are more despondent, more panic-stricken, and heartbroken than ever before. The Islamic Republic of Iran is not talking nonsense; it does not expect too much. We say: Why did you attack us? Why have you inflicted so much damage upon us? Why have you occupied our territories? Why have you committed so many crimes?

The Saddamists and the perpetrators of these crimes, all those

who were the cause of these affairs, do not deserve to rule over Muslim people. We are fighting to regain our rights. Our war is a defensive war; we have not launched an attack against anybody and we are not attacking anyone today either. We have never started military aggression on any front; but we will powerfully crush any aggressor, whether Iraq or anybody else. [cheers]

We will turn the hope of global arrogance to destroy the young Islamic system into despondency. We will not allow their mercenary hirelings to retain this hope in their hearts for a long time. We are not only a government defending its honor and Islamic and revolutionary values, we are a nation. Where else on earth can you find a population of 40 million standing against an aggressive enemy? Today even our babies in the cradle grow up with the teaching to hate global arrogance. With this voice, we ask our God to give us the power to stand against all this pressure. We have resisted so far and will continue to do so. We are certain our resistance will bring U.S. imperialism, global arrogance, and all the threatening powers to their knees. [cheers] We feel the power of faith in God in ourselves.

The superpowers keep accusing each other. Each one accusing the other of intentions to attack Iran. Any military attack on Iran by anybody or any power will be faced by the steel fist of this nation and by its crushing resistance. Where else on earth can you find a nation like this? In what part of the world have the superpowers achieved any success? The Islamic system is a stable and lasting system that will remain despite all moves and conspiracies. [end recording]

Referring to the conspiracies of global arrogance in the region, the Friday imam of Tehran said: They put pressure on the PLO in the hope of dragging the nation of Palestine out of the arena. We know that the nature of every Palestinian is saturated with a deep revolutionary fervor. Global arrogance is trying to find someone to represent the nation of Palestine and speak on behalf of the Muslim Palestinian nation, but the affairs of the honest Palestinians are quite separate from those of the mercenary Husayn of Jordan. Husayn of Jordan and his accomplices are not endowed with either Arab or national honor; they have never had any Islamic sentiments. We believe any Arab summit and any agreements among Arab leaders should take into account the rights of the Palestinians and refuse to recognize the usurping Zionists.

In continuation of the second sermon, referring to the global arrogance conspiracies to create division among the Muslims, the Friday imam of Tehran said: Unfortunately, we witness that they start bloodshed in neighboring countries among Muslims and between the Shi'a and Sunni brothers. Why should Muslims deliver blows against each other instead of against the usurping Zionists? The Sunni and Shi'a brothers take part in common prayers and feel sympathy toward one another. We expect to see that the authorities of Islamic countries use all their power and sincerity to stop clashes between the Shi'a and Sunni brothers, and I call upon the Shi'a and Sunni brothers to think of the usurping Israel and the criminal United States, who want to ensure that nothing remains of Islam and the Muslims.

Continuing the second sermon, the Friday imam of Tehran raised the issue of oil slick from the Nowruz oil field and said: The world

mass media have not condemned Iraq, which launched a missile attack and destroyed the oil wells of the Nowruz field. What sort of justice is it when the world mass media refuse to condemn the Iraqi regime for this crime?

We have declared that we are world should know that we have one condition for capping the wells, that Iraq should refrain from repeating its crime during the period that we are engaged in the task of capping the wells, to protect the marine environment and for the sake of the deprived people of the southern parts of the Persian Gulf. We do not want to see the environment of the Persian Gulf and the people living on its southern shores harmed. However, the regime of Iraq, which claims to be pan-Arab, is not prepared to stop its evil deeds without taking political advantages. Once again, we offer our thanks to God for exposing the enemy and his barbarism and for showing our just cause and our clear positions to the people of the region and the world.

Finally, addressing our Muslim Arab brothers and sisters, Hojjat ol-Eslam Seyyed 'Ali Khamene'i, Friday imam of Tehran, read a sermon in Arabic.

Interior Ministry Statement on Afghan Identity Cards

LD160850 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 0730 GMT 16 Apr 83

[Text] The Interior Ministry has issued a statement addressed to Afghan immigrants in Iran in connection with the issue of identity cards. The statement reads in part: In implementing the scheme to issue identity cards, the Interior Ministry of the Islamic Republic of Iran has decided to investigate more closely the situation of Afghan immigrants in Iran.

From today, Saturday, 16 April 1983, it is essential that all our Afghan brothers and sisters apply to the centers previously specified and announced and take steps to obtain an identity card within the specified time they will be prosecuted by law.

In the statement, the Interior Ministry emphasized that as of yesterday intercity movement by Afghan nationals is forbidden and that only people who are in possession of an official residence permit or travel documents can travel.

Reportage on Recent Afghan Mujahidin Activities

City Captured

LD141022 Tehran IRNA in English 0908 GMT 14 Apr 83

[Text] New Delhi, April 14 IRNA — (Takab) city, centre of Kapisa, was captured by mujahidin four days ago after heavy clashes with the Soviet forces, said travellers arrived New Delhi from Kabul Tuesday.

During these clashes mujahidin destroyed six modern tanks, 11 armoured personnel carriers, and ammunitions, two Soviet and 28 Afghan soldiers surrendered themselves before mujahidin.

Herat Bombed

LD201029 Tehran IRNA in English 0931 GMT 20 Apr 83

[Text] Tehran, April 20 IRNA — (?A large) number of defenceless people were martyred as a result of bombing by the Soviet forces on Afghanistan's western city of Herat.

Informed sources said Tuesday that Herat and the villages in its vicinity were surrounded by the Soviet forces. Soviet MIG's bombed the villages several times. A number of houses in the city and villages were completely destroyed as a result of the bombing.

Several Afghan Government's commandos, who were sent to crush the people's movement, were killed in clashes with the Muslim mujahideen.

NVOI Criticizes Nonparticipation in Afghan Talks

TA180958 (Clandestine) National Voice of Iran in Persian 1730 GMT 17 Apr 83

[Unattributed commentary]

[Text] Dear compatriots: As you are aware, indirect talks are taking place in Geneva between the representatives of the Afghan and Pakistani Governments under the mediation of the UN secretary general's special envoy. Informed observers are assessing these talks as a positive step toward resolving the outstanding problems among the aforementioned countries. The Pakistani regime, under pressure of the people's demands and in view of the actual realities in Afghanistan, has been forced to come to the negotiation table despite its commitment with respect to implementing the satanic plans of U.S. imperialism regarding Democratic Afghanistan, and this is endorsed by everyone.

However, it should be mentioned with deep regret that the representatives of our revolutionary and anti-imperialist country are refraining from participating in these talks under impact of imperialist intimations and the mental prejudice of some superficial authorities. The only reason mentioned for the nonparticipation of Iran's representative in these talks is that the representatives of the so-called Afghan resistance movement, namely, the murdering and U.S. mercenary bands, are not taking part in these talks. In connection with this, it should be stated that when the traitor and annihilated Qotbzadeh brought some of these killers to the Islamic conference, he dealt a severe blow to the Islamic Republic of Iran's international prestige and credibility.

On the other hand, why should our Islamic Republic support and back certain elements whose link with world-devouring America and whose pay in the service of the U.S. CIA is more obvious than the sun?

Democratic Afghanistan is an independent country and a member of the Nonaligned Movement, whose democratic government enjoys the full support and backing of the people and which has normal political and diplomatic relations with many of the world's countries. Despite the plots, the subversions, and the assassinations of the fugitive counterrevolutionaries from abroad

and despite the undeclared war by world-devouring America against the independent and liberated country of Afghanistan, the Afghan people have achieved substantial gains in connection with building a new society.

So far not even a single instance can be shown where the slightest measure or act has been carried out by the popular and anti-imperialist Government of Democratic Afghanistan against our Islamic Republic, whereas numerous hostile acts have been and are being carried out by many so-called Islamic governments, including the regimes of Pakistan and Turkey, against revolutionary Iran. Yet despite this, officials of the Islamic Republic of Iran are striving to ignore the anti-Iranian plots of such regimes and to establish cordial relations with them simply because they have adopted the name of Islam.

Moreover, in the sphere of foreign policy as well as in other vital spheres of the country, officials of our Islamic Republic are at best ignoring the principles of the Islamic Republic's Constitution. The government's policy toward Democratic Afghanistan is an obvious example that confirms this claim.

It is an undisputable fact that, unfortunately, with respect to friendly Afghanistan the Government of the Islamic Republic of Iran is taking measures precisely in the direction taken by America, Ziaul Haq's regime, the Saudis, and Qabus. Support for the fugitive Afghan killers, bandits, and bands, who are fully and openly backed by America as well, is beneath the dignity of the Iranian Revolution and our Islamic Republic.

Consequently, arming these bands and dispatching them to Afghanistan to commit subversive and terrorist acts is tantamount to blatant and clear interference in the internal affairs of an independent, liberated, and Muslim country which under no circumstances is justifiable. It is beneath the dignity of a government born out of the Iranian nation's anti-imperialist and popular revolution to take part, whether wittingly or unwittingly, directly or indirectly, in the criminal and conspiratorial games of the imperialists, headed by the United States, against Afghanistan.

Everyone is aware that all those so-called Afghan Islamic mujahidin organizations supported by some superficial officials in our country are neither Islamic nor mujahid, but rather they are the gangs of the self-same plundering feudalists, khans, sardars, and capitalists who were expelled by the Afghan people from their country and terminated their despotic domination in Afghanistan forever.

It is in view of the reality of the situation that our homeland's ever-on-the-scene people demand that the government reassess its policy toward Afghanistan, and that it adopt the course of talks and exchange of views with the legal Government of the Democratic Republic of Afghanistan to resolve outstanding differences and misunderstandings with Democratic Afghanistan.